

that God hath joined together let no man put asunder.

The Day of

WAS CELEBRATED BETWEN

Ripind, & Gavine of Cheshire, Miss.  
and Amanda Graham of Cheltenham, Eng. etc.  
on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of Oct: 1860. Wm. Graham  
by sonnath: Riddell Eng

Witness W. H. Graham. Witness Miss Mary McTender

Baldwin



Rufus Charles Gavin was born April 11<sup>th</sup> 1845.  
Amanda Gashouse was born August 12<sup>th</sup> 1848.

Charles Wesley Gavin was born Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 1867.  
David Smith Gavin was born Sept 6<sup>th</sup> 1869.  
Abelosa Calaway Gavin was born Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 1871.  
Arabella Cornelia Gavin was born Jan 17<sup>th</sup> 1874.  
Samie Geneva Gavin was born Feb 10<sup>th</sup> 1876.  
Selia Wyna Gavin was born Oct 11<sup>th</sup> 1878.  
Edgar Herbert Gavin was born Sept 7<sup>th</sup> 1885.  
Claudius Alvin Gavin was born Sept 17<sup>th</sup> 1885.  
Born into Rev. & Mrs. C. H. Gavin Apr. 30 1871  
Ends May.  
Born into A. C. & Edna Gavin Lawrence Park Dec 21. 1891.  
" " C. H. & Fannie Gavin, Caffie Louisiana  
March 30 1893.  
Born into D. S. & Mamie Gavin.  
Maude Hamilton Apr. 7-1893.  
Born into J. R. and Della Roberta John  
Gavin Nov 15 1894.

# ROBERTS

Rev R. Roberts to Anna L. Brown Mar. 27<sup>th</sup> 1866.  
Rev C. O. Gavin to Fannie Taylor Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> 1882.  
Mr. A. C. Gavin to Edna Lloyd, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> 1891.  
" David Smith Gavin to Minnie Newman  
Jan. 26-1892.  
Geo. H. Roberts to Della C. Gavin Jan. 17, 1894.  
Walter R. Miller to Carrie L. Miller Mar. 24 1897  
Dr. H. H. Harkness to Edna C. Roberts Dec. 14 1919  
A. D. Roberts to Edna C. Roberts Dec. 14 1919  
D. H. Langley to Russell W. Roberts Sept. 12-1920  
C. F. Roberts to Frances Anderson Dec. 9 1921  
Walter C. Roberts to Leila C. Roberts June 13-1925  
A. D. Roberts Jr. to Mary E. Eva Williams April 15, 1927  
Vernon Edwin Roberts to Mildred Davis  
Hayward Bernard Roberts to Gladys Brewster

## Death

Died Dec 13 1893 Lawrence Garris aged 16 days  
Died April 29 1893 Bartlett Smith Garris 79 years  
Died Dec 4 1897 C. W. Johnson  
Amanda Garris Oct. 23 1902.  
Alvin Roberts Aug 3 1923  
Rufus C Garris Nov 20 1924  
Fannie Garris Nov 2 1924  
Audella Bernelia Roberts Sept 27<sup>th</sup> 1931  
Hayward Bernard Roberts Nov. 13 1939  
Eugene Roberts  
David Smith Garris Oct. 6 1928  
Charles Wesley Harris Dec 9 1954  
Sofie Lila Verma Haskett Nov 1 1934  
Abdalom Bartlett Harris July 3 1941  
Gladdies Alvin Garris 1938  
Edgar Hubert Harris Feb 1 1939  
Larry Lenora Miller Aug. 14 1961  
Effie Garris Jan 10 1967

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**Husband: Rufus Charles Gavin**

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Born: 04 April 1845 in: Greene Co. Mississippi  
Married: 23 October 1866 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Bk page  
Died: 20 November 1927 in: Westville, Holmes Co. Florida  
Father: Bartlett Smith Gavin  
Mother: Martha Ann Moody  
Other Spouses: Frances Eugenia Flourney

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**Wife: Amanda Graham**

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Born: 12 August 1848 in: Tuskegee, Macon Co. Alabama  
Died: 23 October 1902 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama  
Father: William Henry Graham, Sr.  
Mother: Elizabeth Oswalt  
Other Spouses:

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<b>CHILDREN</b>	
1	Name: Charles Wesley Gavin Born: 15 December 1867 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Married: 26 December 1889 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Bk 2 page 65 Died: 27 August 1954 in: Lakeland, Polk Co. Florida Spouse: Frances Ann Caledonia Taylor
2	Name: David Smith Gavin in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Born: 06 September 1869 in: Clarke Co. Mississippi Married: 26 June 1892 in: Denver, Colorado Died: 06 October 1928 Spouse: Mamie Gusman
3	Name: Abslom Calloway Gavin in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Born: 01 October 1871 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Bk 2 page 102 Married: 25 November 1891 in: Florida Died: 1943 Spouse: Edna L. Wood
4	Name: Audella Cornelia Gavin in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Born: 17 January 1874 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Bk 2 page 154 Married: 17 January 1894 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Died: 27 September 1931 Spouse: John Henry Roberts, Jr.
5	Name: Catherine Lenora Gavin in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Born: 10 February 1876 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Bk 2 page 244 Married: 24 November 1894 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Died: 24 August 1961 Spouse: Walter Ramsey Miller
6	Name: Leila Verona Gavin in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Born: 04 October 1878 in: Alabama Married: 15 December 1903 in: Died: 01 November 1934 Spouse: Daniel Walter Haskew
7	Name: Claudius Alvin Gavin in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Born: 26 September 1885 in: Married: in: Died: Abt. 1938 in: Tarpon Springs, Florida Spouse: Eva McCoy
8	Name: Edgar Hubert Gavin in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Born: 26 September 1885 in: Married: in: Died: 02 February 1939 in: Pensacola, Florida Spouse: Etta Lee Briggs

**Husband: John Henry Roberts,Jr.**

Born: 06 June 1870 in: Mississippi  
Married: 17 January 1894 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Bk 2 page 154  
Died: 29 May 1966 in: York, Sumter Co. Alabama  
Father: John Henry Roberts,Sr.  
Mother: Ellen Vashti Poole  
Other Spouses:

**Wife: Audella Cornelia Gavin**

Born: 17 January 1874 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama  
Died: 27 September 1931 in: Choctaw Co. Alabama  
Father: Rufus Charles Gavin  
Mother: Amanda Graham  
Other Spouses:

**CHILDREN**

1 M	Name: John Alvin Roberts Born: 15 November 1894 Married: Died: 03 August 1923 Spouse:	in: Choctaw Co. Alabama in: in: Choctaw Co. Alabama
2 M	Name: Hubert Gavin Roberts Born: 21 February 1896 Married: Died: 17 December 1961 Spouse: Ethel Harwell	in: Choctaw Co. Alabama in: in: Stonewall, Clarke Co. Mississippi
3 M	Name: Cecil Freeman Roberts Born: 11 November 1897 Married: 24 December 1921 Died: Spouse: Mammie Anderson	in: Herbron, Choctaw Co. Alabama in: Crandell, Clarke Co. Mississippi in: Eugene , Oregon
4 F	Name: Sadie Amanda Roberts Born: 23 June 1899 Married: 14 December 1919 Died: 01 February 1975 Spouse: Andrew David Roberts	in: in: Choctaw Co. Alabama Bk 6 page 70 in: Meridian, Lauderdale Co. Mississippi
5 F	Name: Bessie Wynona Roberts Born: 28 August 1901 Married: 12 September 1920 Died: 20 October 1978 Spouses: John Laffayette Jenkins, Charles E. Black, Denton Henry Singley	in: Choctaw Co. Alabama in: Herbron , Choctaw Co. Alabama Bk 6 page 140 in: Selma, Dallas Co. Alabama
6 F	Name: Leila Annie Roberts Born: 04 November 1908 Married: 13 June 1925 Died: 08 March 1980 Spouse: Miles Ponds Roberts	in: Choctaw Co. Alabama in: Clarke Co. Mississippi in: Meridian, Lauderdale Co. Mississippi
7 F	Name: Irene Audella Roberts Born: 13 September 1913 Married: 22 May 1937 Died: Spouses: Lynn Sample, Elmo Few	in: Toxey, Choctaw Co. Alabama in: in:
8	Name: Born: Married: Died: Spouse:	in: in: in:

GAVIN

Bartlet Smith Gavin married Martha Ann Moody.

Bartlet S. Gavin was born May 17, 1814 and died April 29, 1893.  
Martha Ann Moody was born February 2, 1824 and died September 22, 1904.

Children:

	BORN	DIED
David C. Gavin	?	?
Rufus Charles	April 4, 1845	November 20, 1927
George I.	April 15, 1850	December 1, 1905
Gabriel	?	?
Margareta	January 15, 1844	March 17, 1916
Cattie	?	?
Jane	?	?
Lizzie	?	?
Nora	?	?
Annie	?	?
Julia Caroline	December 14, 1854	March 7, 1909

To whom children were married:

Rufus Charles -	Amanda Graham
David C.	Jinnie M. Davis (second marriage to Bivian Hunter)
George I.	Liddy Heard
Gabriel	Evie Barefield
Margareta (Mag)	never married - school teacher
Catherine (Cattie)	Henry Graham
Jane	Columbus Gunn
Lizzie	John Gunn
Nora	Henry Barefield
Annie	Richard Land
Julia Caroline	William Graham, Jr.

# Grandpa & Grand Ma Gavin

Rufus Charles Gavin and Amanda Graham were married October 23, 1866.

Rufus was born April 4, 1845 and Died November 20, 1927.  
Amanda was born August 12, 1848 and died October 23, 1902.

## Children:

	BORN
Charles Wesley	December 15, 1867
David Smith	September 6, 1869
Abslom Calloway	October 1, 1871
Audella Cornelius	January 17, 1874
Carrie Lenora	February 10, 1876
Leila Verona	October 4, 1878
Edgar Hubert	September 26, 1885
Dr. Claudius Alvin	September 26, 1885 } Twins

## To whom children were married:

### David

Charles married Mamie Goosman  
Charles married Fannie Taylor  
Abslom married Edna Wood  
Audella married John Roberts  
Catherine married Walter Miller  
Leila married Dan Haskew  
Claud married Eva McCoy  
Edgar married Etta Briggs

Bartlett Smith Gavin was born in South Carolina in 1814. His father with two other brothers came over from England in late 1700.

Bartlett Smith Gavin married Martha A. Moody in 1837, daughter of Iwom and Priscilla Moody. Her brothers were Charles Caloway, Edward and Aug.

Bartlett and Martha settled in Green County, Alabama and their eleven children were born there. They moved to Clark County, Miss. in 1858 just over the line from Choctaw County. About 3 miles from Mt. Nebron Ala. later years known as the Kin Ferritt Place. They made this move by Ox Wagons, carrying house-hold goods, stock etc., crossing Tom Bigbee River at Gainesville Ala. Ferry. This took three days to make the trip, camping the two nights along route. Their new home was a two story house made of hand dressed pine lumber. The Chimney's were made from Limestone rocks on the place. This house burned with all their household goods about 1890. The children were married then, so they spent the rest of their days with their children. The children were Margret (known to relatives as Aunt Mag.) She graduated from Mesopotamia, Female Seminary, Green Co. Ala. and taught some of the younger brothers and sisters in their home. After the Civil War she taught several years in the Public Schools of Choctaw Co.

*Mag - war man married. Her sweet heart got killed in Civil War*

David married Jennie Davis

George " Lydia Mearn

Elizabeth " Thomas Gunn

Jane " Thomas Gunn (after Elizabeth's death)

Gabriel " Evie Barefield ( Uncle Gabe & Aunt Evie)

Catherine " Henry Graham

Julia " William Graham (Uncle Billy)

Annie " Richard Land

Lenora " Henry Barefield

Rufus C. " Amanda Graham

Rufus and Amanda built a home on the land that Amanda's father had given her, within sight of Mt. Nebron Church. They spent their entire married life there except two years spent in Meridian Miss., where they lived so the children could go to school. Rufus worked at Marks Rothenburg as floor walker and preached at West End Methodist Church. Their children were :

David married Mamie Goosman, graduated from Eastman College. Charles married Fannie Taylor " " Wesley "

Absalom married Edna Wood, went to Beeson's College.

Audella married John Roberts, graduated in piano from Moffett McLawn, Meridian Miss.

(laurie) Catherine married Walter Miller went to High School, Meridian. Leila married Dan Haskew " " " "

Later she graduated from Troy Normal College.

Claud Married Eva McCoy, Attended school in Meridian.

Edgar Married Etta Briggs " " " "

The first church at Beerton was a log house with a place in the back, situated in the corner of the four and a half acre farm given to the State. This had been made benches of logs over the floor and a seat made of logs. The first church at Beerton was built for several years, and was gradually paid for by the patrons. The second and the third were built from Hebrews and gopherwood taken and stored at the latter part of 1892. Later there was a high school at this latter period and the school was a high school there.

Claude and Edgar Lasser went to old Southern University at Grambling, La. and Claude went to McNeese College No. 62, La. at Krotto and got his degree from Loyola University in Miami, Fla.

## СЛОВО ПЕРВОЕ СЛОВО

Barus and Anna built a home on the land that Anna's father had given her, within sight of the Hebrew Church. They spent their extra married life except during visits at Anna's brother's home in the West and Methodist Church.

David married Jeanne Davis  
George married Lydia Hamm  
Elizabeith married Thomas Dunn (after Elizabeth's death)  
Sarah married Thomas Dunn (after Elizabeth's death)  
Gardner's married Lydia Harrelson, Uncle Gabe and Aunt Faye  
Gatherlie married Henry Chapman  
Jillia married William Chapman (Uncle Eddie)  
Anne married Richard Land  
Leone married Henry Harrelson  
Barney G. married Amanda Chapman

**Barrett Smith** the Captain married **Kartha A. Moody** in 1837, daughter of **Isaac and Priscilla Moody**. Her brothers were **Charles Galway**, **Edward and Aug.**

GAVIN

Bartlett Smith Gavin was born in South Carolina in 1814. His father with two other brothers came over from England in late 1700.

Bartlett Smith Gavin married Martha A. Moody in 1837, daughter of Isom and Priscilla Moody. Her brothers were Charles Caloway, Edward and Augustus.

Bartlett and Martha settled in Green County, Alabama and their eleven children were born there. They moved to Clarke County, Mississippi in 1858 just over the line from Choctaw County, Alabama. About three miles from Mt. Hebron, Alabama, in later years known as the Kin Perritt Place. They made this move by ox wagons, carrying household goods, stock, etc., crossing the Tombigbee River at Gainesville, Alabama Ferry. This took three days, camping the two nights along route. Their new home was a two story house made of hand dressed pine lumber. The chimneys were made from limestone rocks on the place. This house burned with all their household goods about 1890. The children were married then so they spent the rest of their days with their children. The children were:

Margaret (known to relatives as Aunt Mag). She graduated from Mesopotamia Female Seminary, Green County, Alabama and taught some of the younger children in their home. After the Civil War she taught several years in the public schools of Choctaw County.

David, George, Elizabeth, Jane, Gabriel, Catherine, Julia, Annie, Lenora and Rufus C.

Rufus C. married Amanda Graham and they built a home on the land that Amanda's father had given her, within sight of Mt. Hebron church. They spent their entire married life there except two years spent in Meridian, Mississippi where they lived so the children could go to school. Rufus worked at Marks Rothenburg as floor walker and preached at West End Methodist Church. Their children were:

Davis - graduated from Eastman College  
Charles - graduated from Wesley College

Abslom went to Beeson's College

Audella, graduated in piano from Moffett McLawn, Meridian, Miss.

Catherine - went to high school in Meridian

Leila - went to high school in Meridian, later graduated from Troy  
Norman College

Claud attended school in Meridian

Edgar attended school in Meridian

Claud and Edgar later went to Old South University at Greensboro, Alabama and Claud went to Medical College N. of A. at Mobile and got his degree from Emory University in Atlanta, Ga.

The first church at Hebron was log house with fireplace in back, shutter windows over the four one sash window to give light. This had homemade pine desks, as this was used for a school house as late as 1903. Earlier there was a two teacher school down by the creek where the old cotton gin was. Edna Woods (later married Ab Gavin) taught there in 1891-1892. Later there was a high school at Bergamot and the children from Hebron neighborhood walked and attended school there. This lasted for several years, and was partially paid for by the patrons. D. P. Slaught was principal. Rufus Charles Gavin was licensed to preach on September 24, 1877. He never joined the conference at this time, because he had a large family and could not support them on a circuit rider's pay. He was self educated, that is, he never attended college, but read extensively. When he died his library of several hundred volumes was given to Bob Jones University in Florida. His first charge in the ALAlabama M.C. Conference was Womach Hill Circuit, Alabama. This was in 1893. His last charge was 1909 Cotton Dale, Florida. He preached before and after these dates when ever there was a call.

Audella Cornelia Gavin married John Henry Roberts January 17, 1894.

Della was born January 17, 1874 and died September 27, 1931. <sup>1931</sup> Buried at Huber  
John was born June 6, 1870 and died May 29, 1966.

Children of Della and John:

	<u>BORN</u>	<u>DIED</u>
John Alvin	November 15, 1894	August 3, 1923
Hubert Gavin	February 21, 1896	December 17, 1961
Cecil Freeman	November 11, 1897	
Sadie Amanda	June 23, 1899	
Bessie Wynona	August 28, 1901	
Leila Annie	November 4, 1908	
Irene Audelle	September 13, 1913	

Marriages:

John Alvin - did not marry, was killed in train wreck six weeks before  
he was to be married

Hubert - Ethel Harwell

Freeman - Mamie Anderson (divorced)

Sadie - Andrew David Roberts <sup>1944</sup>

Bessie - ~~John~~ Henry Singley (deceased) later John Jenkins

Leila - Miles Ponds Roberts

Irene - Elmo Few (divorced)

1957 to 1969  
John Charles Black

- Lynn Sample 1970 All 7 survived in Delma Ok

Set 14

Lawrence Singly  
John H. Singly

William Henry Graham came to Choctaw Co. Ala. from South Carolina in 1830, bought and homesteaded a large tract of land at what later was known as Mt. Nebron, Choctaw County Ala. He married Mary Elizabeth Oswalt, daughter of George and Christine Oswalt. They built a home on this site of land which was later given to several of their children. The house was built similar to Ft. Belvoir, six 20x20 ft. rooms and 20 ft wide hallway through the house with steps all the way across front and back of house. The chimneys were built of hand made brick as were the huge pillars. The house was built ten ft. off the ground. Underneath the house was used for storage and children to play. The windows were built of small glass panes that were imported. The window frames were made by slave labor and pegged together with wooden pegs. The house was painted inside and out with pure white lead and linseed oil. The lumber, all hand planed and cut. The Timbers all hand hewed from heart pine. The slave kitchen was in backyard, which was later used for smokehouse. The slave cabins were built of cedar logs which consisted of one room and rock chimney. There were six in a row in edge of orchard. The children went to Old Piercies Spring Academy. The girls rode horseback and the boys walked. This was four miles.

Their children were:

John Graham	- Married Narcissa Pool
Rebecca	" Thomas Bonney
Henry	" Catherine Gavin
Mary Ellen	" Dr. William Wesley Johnson
(Amanda)	" (Rufus C. Gavin) my grandfather
George	" ?
William	" Julia Graham, William Being the youngest son

inherited the home place as was customary in those days.

Mary and Amanda married soon after the Civil War when times were so hard. Their father, William Henry Graham Sr. asked them which they wanted a big wedding or one thousand dollars and 500 acres of land. Aunt Mary took the big wedding. Amanda was maid of honor. Her dress cost thirty dollars per yard. Aunt Mary did not remember how much hers cost. She had the big wedding with all the neighbors invited and a banquet afterwards, which was held in the big hall and consisted of roast turkey and roasted whole pigs with apples in mouth and all the fixings.

Amanda took the money and land. She used the money to build home within sight of her father's home. John Graham built the home just below Amanda's home. Thomas Boney and wife Becky moved to Texas about 1900. Several of John Graham's family moved to Baldwin Co. In and near Bay Minette, Ala. Some of them are living in Jacksonville Fla.

*from*  
This information was given Aunt Mary Johnson, to one of her Great Grand Niece's.

The following is a copy of a typewritten certified copy of the will of Thomas Gavin of Colleton District, S. C. This copy was sent to Peggy Costen in April of 1968.

In the name of God Amen I Thomas Gavin of Colleton District planter being sic and weak in Body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto God and Calling unto mind the mortallity of my Body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my last will and Testament that is to say first and principally of all I give and Recommend my Soul into the hand of Almighty God that gave it and Body I recommend to the Earth to be Buried in decent Christian Burial at the Discretion of My Executors nothing Doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God and as touching Such worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to be me in this life I give demise and dispose of the same in the following maner & Form- First I give and Bequeath to my beloved Wife Mary Gavin Four Negroes- Hester, Lucy, Jim, and Caesar and I also Give to my beloved wifelary, Grace, E. and Maria During her natural life or Widowhood and after my wife's decease or Marriage then to Decend to my beloved Children as follows Grace to my son Charles, Mary to my son John, Ellen to my son Abraham Thomas, Mariah to my Daughter Eliza Ann and the Remaind of my Estate Real and Personal at my Decease to Decend to my above named Children my Lawful Debts being paid out of the Same and I do hereby nominate and appoint my beloved Friend and Kinsman Charles Gavin Executor of this my last will and Testament and I do hereby utterly disallow revoke and disannul all and Every other former Testaments and Execut in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this Fourteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight Hundred and Eleven.

Signed: Thomas Gavin (Legal Signat

Signed Sealed Published Pronounced and Delivered by the said Thomas Gavin his Last will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence subscribed our names

Signed: William Gressett  
Margaret Gavin

Recorded in Will Book "A" Page 184  
Recorded November 19th, 1814  
Orsarus B. Allen, C. E. D.  
Bundle 23, Package 5.

Note: This  
Thomas may be  
referred to as Charles Gavin

The following is a copy of a typewritten certified copy of the will of Thomas Gavin of Colleton District, S. C. This copy was sent to Peggy Costen in April of 1968.

In the name of God Amen I Thomas Gavin of Colleton District planter being sick and weak in Body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto God and Calling unto mind the mortallity of my Body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my last will and Testament that is to say first and principally of all I give and Recommend my Soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it and Body I recommend to the Earth to be Buried in Decent Christian Burial at the Discretion of My Executors nothing Doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God and as touching Such worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bles me in this life I give demise and dispose of the same in the following maner and Form- First I give and Bequeath to my beloved Wife Mary Gavin Four Negroes- Hester, Lucy, Jim, and Cesar and I also Give to my beloved wifelary, Grace, Ellen and Maria During her natural life or Widowhood and after my wife's decease or Marriage then to Decend to my beloved Children as follows Grace to my son Charles, Mary to my son John, Ellen to my son Abraham Thomas, Mariah to my Daughter Eliza Ann and the Remaind of my Estate Real and Personal at my Decease to Decend to my above named Children my Lawful Debts being paid out of the Same. and I do hereby nominate and appoint my beloved Friend and Kinsman Charles Gavin Executor of this my last will and Testament and I do hereby utterly- disallow revoke and disannul all and Every other former Testaments and Executors in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this Fourteenth Day of March, in the ye r of our Lord one thousand eight Hundred and Eleven.

Signed: Thomas Gavin (Legal Signature)

Signed Sealed Published Pronounced and Delivered by the Said Thomas Gavin his Last will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence subscribed our names

Signed: William Gressett  
Margaret Gavin

Recorded in Will Book "A" Page 184  
Recorded November 19th, 1814  
Orson B. Allen, C. E. D.  
Bundle 23, Package 5.

Note: This  
Thomas may be  
a brother to Charles Gavin  
who married Barbara Byn

Bridge City, Texas  
October 14, 1970

Dearest Cousin:

As late as this past week-end I had hoped to be with you on the occasion of this year's reunion, but due to the illness of my younger daughter, Stacey, it has become impossible for me to make the trip. However, I shall be thinking of each of you, including those of you whom I have not met. I feel as though I know each of you and I will plan again next year to try and come for that gathering. It is with that thought in mind that I am writing this type of letter.

As most of you already know, there are a number of us who are working to produce a true and autherticated history of our family backgrounds. We have made many interesting, amusing, and "awe-full" (no "awful" ones so far!) discoveries about our early (as farback as the 1600's on some lines) kins-people. I have received lovely letters from some of you, and am grateful to those of you who have shared what information you have had in your possession. I understand that there are still some of you who have, or may have, still more information, including Bibles, old records and other data, which might be of some aid in researching still other family lines. It is not my desire now the desire of any of the ones who are engaged in this "task of pleasure" to borrow, ask for, or take anyone's family treasures or keepsakes. We ask only that you share with us what you have by sending Xerox copies (for which I shall be happy to pay) to me or to one of the others who is helping with this. There will be present in your midst today (I hope!) a couple who has been like a candle in the window on a stormy night, as far as the help and encouragement they have both given me. They are Ed and Ann Clayton of Meridian and their three real cool kids, Edwin, Judy, and Bobby. They will be happy to take any information that you may care to give them, and it is certain that they will share with others. There are others who have helped me many times, and helped my late aunt, Effie Gavin, and me to get started on this venture a few years back. One of these is Sadie Roberts. She and her dear husband, Dave, "endured" a visit from me last year (as have the Claytons and dear old George and Nettie Gavin of Magnolia Springs, Ala.) and with God's help in getting our Stacey over her recently discovered ulcer and her continued well-being in regard to her heart defect, I hope to "roam" through that area once more in the not-too distant future. (Sadie, I love you and Dave, and will write a "real" letter to you right away.) The same goes for each of you to whom I write a letter. Please forgive my delay and bear with me while I try to re-organize my research. There are others I would like to mention who have been so sweet in the past to me and mine. Some of these are Essie Oswalt, and although I have never met him either, I know Cliff must be a jewel for having had the good taste in his selection of a wife. I hope Miss Patti was able to come today also, and if so, then, Patti, I shall also get letters off to you and Essie real soon. I was so sorry to miss the Oswalt re-union again this year, but maybe I can make that one too next year. I am planning to become a "housewife" next summer again, and hope to find much time to "roaming" through Mississippi and Alabama. Also, I look forward to hiking and climbing "Courthouse Hill" again. Do tell them all about that one, Ed, or, rather, Ann, for you were there to the bitter end! I hope to get some pictures of that place next summer or sooner, if possible. Ed, do tell them all how soon our Gavin and related kin were in Mississippi. And explain about the moves that they made. Some of them are still of the impression that some of Bartlet Smith Gavin's brothers went to other places before coming to Miss. This would have been entirely out of the question, for the oldest sons were still at home and all of the children of Charles Gavin and his wife, Margaret Horger Gavin, moved from Green and Perry counties, Miss. a few years after

the death of their father, Charles, who died in Perry County, Miss. near the Green County line in 1824. It has been thought for years that he died up in Neshubee county in 1846 or thereabout, but I have records proving when he died, and who his wife and children were. I also have visited the cemetery in Neshubee county, where Margaret Horger Gavin and many of hers and Charles' children and grandchildren are resting. (Tell them about that, Ann.) I have pictures of all of these places, including pictures taken this past summer of the cemetery and gravesites of our Judge Isham Moody and his wife, Priscilla Bass Moody, and probably the grave of one of their little girls, Emeline, who died at 16. This is located in Clarke county. I was not able to see any of you this summer, for I was without a car, and "at the mercy of Ann Clayton, (who, incidentally, refuses to claim a kinship with me, but I fear the joke is going to turn out to be on her later!) However, she and Ed carried me over hill and dale uncovering new things of interest. His are was new when I got there and "old" when I left! But we did get many new items, and we also "conferred" with each other on the information which we already had. Back to the pictures, I will be more than happy to send prints of the graves of the grandparents (great-etc.) and other ones of interest, if you who are interested will send me a self-addressed envelope, and 10¢ for each print wanted. I wish I were able to GIVE them away, but at this point, I am not. I WILL give any information I have in my possession, in exchange for information from any of you. I am sending some forms and will appreciate it so much if you will each fill one out as completely as you can, and return it to me. I am going to be able to go to Houston in the near future and new information will be of great help to me. I also plan to try and make a small booklet on what I have already obtained in my searching. If I receive enough information from you to connect each of you with the older names I have already, such as the children of Bartlett Smith and Rufus Charles Gavins families (also including all the other lines from Charles and Margaret, which include Abraham Andrew Gavin, who has descendants living near there now, and whose descendants are Foster Gavin, who descends from George Washington Gavin, son of Abraham Andrew, and also, Kate Ulmer Rauter, who descends from Clarkessa Gavin, daughter of Abraham Andrew.) I feel as though I knew all of those people so well. Also all of the Basses, Jones, Moodys, Grahams and others. There were so many! AND STILL ARE. THANK GOODNESS!

I shall close this letter with a touching verse taken from Longfellow's "Psalm of Life": LIVES OF GREAT MEN ALL HUMBLE US  
WE CAN MAKE OUR LIVES SUBLIME,  
AND, DEPARTING, LEAVE BEHIND US  
FOOTPRINTS ON THE SANDS OF TIME.

PLEASE let me hear from each of you! With love to each,

Peggy Coker

Peg

1107 Crescent Drive  
Charles Wesley Givin Bridge, City, Texas  
Fannie Taylor Givin  
Her mother was Fannie  
Doris, daughter of William Jones Dorse  
and Anna (Mrs. Dore) Dorse

77611

Bridge City, Texas  
January 21, 1968

Dearest Sadie,

This will just be a short note this time, but I wanted to thank you for the copies out of the Bible that you sent me last week. I have been sick with laryngitis and was out of school for all of last week, but made it back this past week. However, Tina came down with the flu this week and she missed all of her mid-term tests. Stacey was out the same week that I was out, and she had a case of sore throat, so you can see why I am behind in everything. I have some things to copy and send you and will try to get it done this week. I found a write-up of old Pierce's Springs school in a history book on Alabama written by Joel Campbell DuBose, in 1908, and it tells all about the Dr. Mellen who founded the school first in Mississippi and then moved it as a summer session to Mt. Sterling in Choctaw county. It is real good. I am anxious to read the book that Essie sent to you to pass around. Don't forget and leave me out. I haven't been able to find a copy of it out here yet.

You asked about the Oswalts I found out here. We haven't raked up a relationship yet, but it would delight me to do so for they are just precious. We have been to their home twice and Stacey has even ridden their horse. I am going to have them over for a light supper one night, maybe this week, and we will see what we each have learned that is new. His people came out here from Choctaw county, Mississippi. He also has some folks living in Meridian, and didn't know it until one time a year or so ago he and his wife were going through and stopped to eat and saw the name Oswalt in the telephone book and called the man. They found that their people were connected but they didn't have time to go out then. He (his name is Aaron Oswalt) called me the other night when I was out of commission with this thing of mine, and I couldn't talk at all, so I am to call him back. I still am a little hoarse but am much better. I will let you know what I find out. He had gotten a letter from Lois Tread and wanted to know who she was. On some of the old Bible records that he let me bring home to copy one time (the Bible was over a hundred years old, printed in 1830 something) I found the name of one of the witnesses at his grandfather's wedding was a S. C. Boney Ward (this Ward was blurred and may have been Wood). So we figured that there may be a connection there somewhere down the line. He even had a great uncle named L. J. Oswalt whose nickname was "Jake" and probably was Jacob.

I have also run on to some new information on the Gavin line. Ask around and see if any of the Gavins over your way have ever heard of any Ulmers, or Horgers. I have found some Ulmer records and a Charles Gavin, born back in 1780 and something married a Horger woman. I will also send you copies of this new stuff this week. If you do get the chance, Sadie, try to get to Brightwater and copy me as many of the graves as you can. Just the names, and dates. And if you should get a chance, or know someone who would do it for me, I desperately need to have the cemetery over toward Issey or around in that area that is called Old Bethel. I have found that it used to be called DuBose cemetery and have found that some of the ones that we are looking for are buried in it. So if you have a chance or, if you can get someone to go over there and copy the names and dates I will be glad to pay for having it done. I need them from both places so badly and it will summer

before I can get back, if then. I hope to be able to come. If you know of someone that I could write to and ask them about copying some of the different cemeteries in that area do send me their name and address.

I do hope that you and Dave are still well and not having any real bad weather. We are having a lot of rain and nasty weather here. Oh, yes, you asked about the list of heirs in the will of George Oswalt. Back in the summer Essie sent me \$20.00 worth of photostats from the courthouse in Tuskegee. They will not make copies from a Xerox machine for they are on real dark copy paper, but Miss Patti Oswalt sent me a copy a while back of a list of the heirs and I will fix you a copy of that too, this week. It is not true that they did not know where Elizabeth and William went. But back in those days, that distance was so great that it was years before people got back on visits, and then too, I guess that having children kept everyone tied down a lot. And then, too, maybe there was a little friction among some of them way back then, but whatever it was it didn't keep all of us from being here, did it? It is a shame that none of us knew each other until this late date, but I'm real glad that we finally got acquainted! I would have missed some great people. You asked about Louise and me writing a book on the Oswalts. Well, Sadie, I don't know what all has gotten around, but when Effie and I started on this three years ago, I told her that it was my intention to write a family history on my entire family line, on both sides if, and when, I found enough information to put together in book form. Well, I am working on the Gavin, Graham, Oswalt, Schultz, Moody, Taylor, DuBose, Harbin, Lee, Bell, Snyder, Peart, Pickerd, lines, all of which are on my own side. And I am also trying to find out about Robert's side too, and it is comical to find that his Costen folk came over about the same time that our Gavin ones did and settled in the same area for a while. That was in Virginia, in the early 1600's. I will send you copies of all of this as soon as I can get it all together. I just wish that I could interest enough of the Gavins and Grahams and others to the point of writing to others to help and gather information. I have found that I can't possibly do enough letter writing to keep up on all of the lines. And I find myself working more on the lines that do answer my letters promptly and who help me by writing to those that they know who can help furnish information. I have had so many utter strangers write me and give me information, and in return I send them information on some that they are interested in. But so far, only you, Lois, and George Gavin have helped me by sending information. Elmer did give me some that summer at Effie's and also took us to see Claude Land. But you can see how long it will take if I have to do all the writing to all of the different names in the different places to see if they have information. Like the Moody's for example. I don't have any ~~idea~~ idea who to write for information on them. But I know that there are several by that name all around Waynesboro, Meridian, Quitman, and Shubuta. So if some of you could either write, call or go and visit some of them and see if you can learn something about them, then that would give me a lead as to where to look in the records. You see, I still haven't found Bartlett Smith in the 1850 census. Just this past week I found that he may have been living in Greene county, Miss, and not Alabama, for I have checked the 1850 census for Greene county, Ala. and he is not in it. So when I get back to Houston I will check in that one in Miss. and maybe find him. He might also have been in Clarke county at that time. I'll check on that too. He was ~~in~~ the 1860 Choctaw census, Alabama. I must stop for now. I'll write and send copies.

*Love & best regards  
S. Patti  
Oswalt  
Dave*

*Aug 1999*

The following is a copy of a typewritten certified copy of the will of Thomas Gavin of Colleton District, S. C. This copy was sent to Peggy Costen in April of 1968.

In the name of God Amen I Thomas Gavin of Colleton District planter being sick and weak in Body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto God and Calling unto mind the mortality of my Body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my last will and Testament that is to say first and principally of all I give and Recommend my Soul into the hand of almighty God that gave it and Body I recommend to the Earth to be Buried in decent Christian Burial at the Discretion of My Executors nothing Doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God and as touching Such worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life I give demise and dispose of the same in the following maner & Form- First I give and Bequeath to my beloved Wife Mary Gavin Four Negroes- Hester, Lucy, Jim, and Cesar and I also Give to my beloved wife Mary, Grace, Eliza and Maria During her natural life or Widhood and after my wife's decease or Marriage then to Decend to my beloved Children as follows Grace to my son Charles, Mary to my son John, Ellen to my son Abraham Thomas, Mariah to my Daughter Eliza Ann and the Remaind of my Estate Real and Personal at my Decease to Decend to my above named Children my Lawful Debts being paid out of the Same and I do hereby nominate and appoint my beloved Friend and Kinsman Charles Gavin Executor of this my last will and Testament and I do hereby utterly disallow revoke and disannul all and Every other former Testaments and Execut in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this Fourteenth Day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight Hundred and Eleven.

Signed: Thomas Gavin (Legal Signature)

Signed Sealed Published Pronounced and Delivered by the Said Thomas Gavin his Last will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence subscribed our names

Signed: William Gressett  
Margaret Gavin

Recorded in Will Book "A" Page 184  
Recorded November 19th, 1814  
Orson G. Allen, C. B. D.  
Bundle 23, Package 5.

Note: This  
Thomas may be  
brother to Charles Brown  
Baldwin Boyd

LOUISE KANE STEWART  
OLDEST GRANDCHILD OF REV. CHARLES WESLEY GAVIN.

CHARLES GAVIN

B: JULY 15, 1775 ORANGEBURG DIST. SOUTH CAROLINA.

D: MARCH 18, 1845 (WILL) NOXBEE COUNTY, MISS.

M: MARGARETT HORGES.

B: APRIL 19, 1775 IN ORANGEBURG DIST. S.C.

D: WIDOW IN 1850 CENSUS OF NOXBEE CO. MISS.

CHILDREN OF THIS UNION THAT HAVE BEEN PROVEN.

ABRAHAM ANDREW GAVIN.

B: OCT. 13, 1810 ORANGEBURG DIST. S.C.

D: FEB. 24, 1899 CLARK CO. MISS.

M: MAY 1833 TO KATIE BOLTON, B. 1803 IN S.C.

D: JUNE 11, 1870 CLARK CO. MISS.

DAUGHTER OF A.A. GAVIN.

CLARISSA C. GAVIN.

B: APRIL 6, 1845 JASPER CO. MISS.

D: JULY 1937 CLARK CO. MISS.

M: JULY 3, 1861 IN JASPER CO. MISS TO JAMES MADISON ULMER.

B: AUG. 10, 1836 PAULDING, MISS.

D: JULY 13, 1873 JASPER CO. MISS.

SON OF CLARISSA C. GAVIN AND J.M. ULMER

ABSOLOM CALHOUN ULMER

B: AUG. 4, 1862 CLARK CO. MISS.

D: JAN. 13, 1951 MOBILE, ALA.

M: DEC. 17, 1884 CLARK CO. MISS TO IDA LANKFORD

B: FEB. 1867 CLARK CO. MISS.

D: APRIL 3, 1917 JACKSON CO. MISS.

SON OF A.C. ULMER

GAVIN LANKFORD ULMER

THE PARENTS OF MARGARETT HORGES WERE:

John HORGES

B: Oct. 26, 1755 ORANGEBURG DIST. S.C.

DECEASED

5/27/1987

JACOB HORGERT

B.; 1725 ZURICH, SWITZERLAND.

D. ORANGEBURG S.C.

M. CA 1746 LOVESIA SHAURILOFFEL

THE ABOVE JOHN HORGERT IS THE ANCESTOR WHO ASSISTED IN ESTABLISHING AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE WHILE ACTING IN THE CAPACITY OF PRIVATE IN THE MILITIA OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

SON No. #2 OF CHARLES GAVIN AND MARGARETT HORGERT

ALLEN GAVIN.

B. 1812 S.C.

D.

M. NOT MARRIED IN THE 1860 CENSUS OF NOXUBEE Co. Miss.

#3. BARTLETT SMITH GAVIN.

B; MAY 17, 1814 IN S.C.

D. APRIL 29, 1893 BURIED IN HEBRON CEMETERY ALA.

M. MARTHA ANN MOODY,

B. FEB. 2, 1824 IN S.C.

D. SEPT. 22, 1904 BURIED IN HEBRON CEMETERY, ALA.

ALFRED

B. 1818

D.

M. SARAH F. GAVIN

B. 1835

D.

CHILDREN: R.A. BORN SEPT. 12, 1859-60

THEY ARE FOUND IN THE 1860 CENSUS NOXUBEE Co. Miss.

ABSALAM GAVIN

B. 1810

*Absalom Gavin - Age 32*

SEPT. 25, 1850 NOXBEE CO. MISS. CENSUS.

MARGARETT GAVIN, AGE 66	PLANTER	B. S.C.	\$2000.00
ALLEN GAVIN	" 36	" B. S.C.	\$1600.00
GABRIEL GAVIN	" 32	" B. S.C.	
ALFRED GAVIN	" 30	" B. MISS.	

BARTLETT S. GAVIN IS FOUND IN THE 1840 CENSUS OF GREENE CO. MISS.

HE HAD ONE MALE 20-30 YEARS

HE HAD 1 UNDER 5 FEMALE

HE HAD 1 15-20 FEMALE

HE WAS A FARMER. SO THIS CENSUS MEANS THAT THERE WERE AT THIS TIME

BARTLETT, MARTHA ANN AND DAUGHTER MARGARETT BORN IN 1839.

1840 CENSUS OF NOXBEE CO.

MRS. GAVIN.

MALES: UNDER 5, 2. 5-10 1 30-40, 1

FEMALES: " 5, 1 " 1 2-30 1.

1860 CENSUS OF NOXBEE CO. MISS.

ALFRE GAVIN IS FOUND.

JOHN E. GAVIN.	47	FARMER	B. S.C.
M.M. I.	" 49	KEEPHOUSE	B. MISS.
MARGARET "	25		"
GEORGE "	24	OVERSEERER	"
ROBERT L. "	23	TEACHER	"
C.L.	" 12		

C.H. GAVIN 44 FARMER, B. S.C.

IN MEMORIAM.

Mrs. Nancy Carmichael departed this life at Cross Keys, Ala., on the 19th day of April, 1887, in the 66th year of her age. The deceased was a daughter of George Dewalt, and was born in Lexington District, S. C., on the 31st day of November, 1821. She moved with her father to Alabama in 1834 and temporarily settled in Chambers county, and in the fall of the same year they moved to Macon county, and settled near Clift's Depot.

She was married to Mr. Malcolm M. Carmichael on the 7th day of January, 1841, and they settled in Honeycutt Bend in Macon county. Her husband died leaving her a widow in December, 1872. She continued to reside at said place until that part of the county was cut off into Bullock, and shortly afterwards removed to Cross Keys, where she continued to live until her death. She resided in Macon county for nearly 60 years, and thus another one of the early settlers has passed away.

She leaves four children, two sons and two daughters, to mourn her loss—Mrs. F. B. Segrest, of Notasulga, and Mrs. J. S. Lightfoot, of Cross Keys, and W. H. and John Carmichael, of Fitzpatrick. The deceased was indeed a remarkable woman. She early cultivated her children in those noble virtues of honesty, industry, morality, prudence, truth and uprightness. Charity, one of the greatest Christian virtues, was indeed implanted in her soul. She ever stood with outstretched hands to relieve the sick and destitute, and to speak words of cheer and consolation to those in distress.

But mother-like, in her long and painful illness her mind was continually dwelling upon the condition of her children and grandchildren, and for their future welfare, prosperity and comfort. She bore her afflictions with a Christian fortitude and humbly resigned herself to the will of Him who doeth all things for His glory; and as her gentle soul left the earthly realm angels of peace and mercy wafted her loving spirit to the glorious God who gave it.

While God in His wisdom saw fit to remove her from her children and her host of friends, let us bow in humble resignation to His will, saying, "Even so, Father, for it seemeth good in Thy sight." And the body of the dear mother may mould into clay, but her kind and indulgent insom, her gentle and loving smiles, her dear and noble image, will live in the hearts and minds of her tender and affectionate children and friends as long as time endures.

To her children we would say, mourn not your loss, but prepare yourselves so that when the messenger of death shall summon you, pray to be ready to "cross over the river," and may you all be reunited with the dear mother around the throne of God.

Montgomery, Alabama.

Miss McElmore wishes  
to thank Miss Rogers  
for assistance given  
during the Buffalo Contest.

September Fifteenth  
One thousand eight hundred and one.

Sent up May 22, 1887,  
by Mrs. Sara K. Stevenson.

/s/ Sara Katherine Stevenson

William Graham  $\frac{3}{3}$  Received in office this 17 day  
to  $\frac{3}{3}$  of October 1855  
George Oswalt  $\frac{3}{3}$  Lewis Alexander  
Judge of Probate

The State of Alabama I now all men by these pre-  
Macon Co. I sents that we William  
Graham and his wife  
Elizabeth Graham both of the County and state  
aforesaid for in consideration of sum of  
Two hundred thousand and ninety three  
dollars to us in hand paid by George Oswalt  
before the sealing hereof have and do by these  
presents sell and convey until said Oswalt  
his heirs and assigns a certain tract of land  
in said County of Macon designated and known  
as the North half of section eleven in township four-  
teen of range twenty three containing  
three hundred and nineteen acres and  
no hundredths of an acre being deducted of to  
Benjamin Thompson to have and hold  
to the said George Oswalt his heirs and  
assigns forever the above described land with